

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)
) CASE NO. CR25-103
Plaintiff,)
)
v.)
) DETENTION ORDER
NANCY CARDENAS GARCIA,)
)
Defendant.)
_____)

Offenses charged:

1. Conspiracy To Commit Money Laundering
2. Money Laundering

Date of Detention Hearing: July 31, 2025.

The Court, having conducted a detention hearing pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §3142(f) and based upon the factual findings and statement of reasons for detention hereafter set forth, as well as the reasons stated on the record at the hearing, finds that no condition or combination of conditions which defendant can meet will reasonably assure the appearance of defendant as

01 required.

02 FINDINGS OF FACT AND STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DETENTION

03 1. Defendant is alleged to have engaged in a long running scheme to launder
04 millions of dollars of drug trafficking proceeds for clients in Mexico. A search of her
05 residence in 2021 revealed a significant quantity of methamphetamine, and a later search
06 revealed firearms with ammunition in close proximity, as well as \$200,000 in cash.
07 Defendant's children were living in the residence at the time of both searches. Defendant has
08 been aware of the underlying investigation for many years, but it is alleged that the criminal
09 conduct nevertheless persisted, including the forming of a new business engaged in money
10 laundering, where \$10,000 in cash was found in a bag in May 2025. After the search warrant
11 was executed in 2024, Defendant left Washington state for a period of a month, and examination
12 of digital devices revealed messages regarding her leaving Washington for another state or
13 Mexico. She sent some messages about leaving for Mexico as recently as April 2025.
14 Defendant also has significant ties to Mexico, where she grew up, arriving in the United States
15 in 2014 on a work visa. She is a Mexican citizen, and her mother lives in Mexico. Defendant
16 is facing a significant sentence based upon the scale of the alleged money laundering scheme,
17 as well as deportation based upon both the filing of the charges and any conviction if that were
18 to occur, which presents an incentive to flee.

19 3. There does not appear to be any condition or combination of conditions that will
20 reasonably assure the defendant's appearance at future Court hearings.

21 It is therefore ORDERED:

22 1. Defendant shall be detained pending trial, and committed to the custody of the Attorney

01 General for confinement in a correction facility separate, to the extent practicable, from
02 persons awaiting or serving sentences or being held in custody pending appeal;

03 2. Defendant shall be afforded reasonable opportunity for private consultation with counsel;

04 3. On order of the United States or on request of an attorney for the Government, the person
05 in charge of the corrections facility in which defendant is confined shall deliver the
06 defendant to a United States Marshal for the purpose of an appearance in connection with a
07 court proceeding; and

08 4. The Clerk shall direct copies of this Order to counsel for the United States, to counsel for
09 the defendant, to the United States Marshal, and to the United State Probation Services
10 Officer.

11 DATED this 1st Day of August, 2025.

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13 S. KATE VAUGHAN
14 United States Magistrate Judge
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